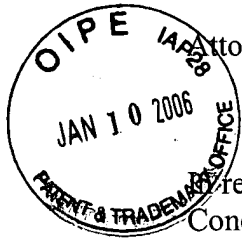


01-11-06

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Attorney Docket No. 3551 P 003

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of:

Conor Mulrooney and John Douglas Oultram

Application No.: 09/936,382

Confirmation No.: 2902

Filed On:: September 10, 2001

Examiner: Cynthia Wilder, Ph.D.

Art Unit: 1637

For: ENZYMATICALLY CATALYSED SIGNAL
AMPLIFICATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REPLY TO NOTICE REGARDING DRAWINGS MAILED NOVEMBER 22, 2005

This is in response to the Notice Regarding Drawings mailed November 22, 2005. A shortened period of two months has been set for response, making the response due January 22, 2006. Therefore, this Reply is considered timely filed.

In the Notice, Figures 1-11 were objected to for erasures, alterations, etc., while Figures 1, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 9 required revision to indicate the subparts of the Figures. Applicants submit corrected formal drawings, as well as an amendment to the specification (beginning on Page 2) corresponding to the corrected Figures. No new matter has been added through these corrected Figures and amendments.

Applicants respectfully request acceptance of these Figures and issuance of the patent, as the issue fee was previously paid on May 20, 2005. **If any issue remains concerning these Figures, Applicants respectfully request contacting the undersigned immediately.**

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 24 of the specification, under “Of the Figures,” please amend the specification as follows:

Figures 1(a) through 1(b) show[s] forms of Locator probes hybridized to target nucleic acid sequences;

Figures 3(a) through 3(k) show[s] a target molecule detection method according to the first embodiment of the present invention;

Figures 4(a) through 4(c) show[s] incorrect amplification template binding;

Figures 6(a) through 6(e)(1) and 6(e)(2) show[s] a target molecule detection method according to the second embodiment of the present invention;

Figures 8(a) through 8(d) show[s] the method of the third embodiment of the present invention;

Figures 9(a) through 9(q) show[s] the method of the fourth embodiment of the present invention;

Please charge any additional necessary fees in connection with this response to our Deposit Account No. 23-0280.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 21, 2005

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 10, 2006 under Label No. E999600206US.


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